



VICE PRESIDENT TECHNICAL | LINDA ROSARIO-EARNSHAW

2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The past season has been busy with local competitions and the preparation of the Canadian Junior Championships in June 2024. In January, with the minimal amount of subsidized funding and new and increased costs, the OWA Board cancelled out on attending the Ontario Winter Games in Thunder Bay, Ontario. There were fewer officials promoted during the past season but there remained consistent members who volunteered to assist in the OWA running the competitions during the past year.

MAIN GOAL-TRAINING AND PROMOTION OF OWA TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

Level 4 – Provincial (OWA)

Two Level 4 online courses were offered in April and in June. The Level 4 courses provide a general view and teachings for introductory technical official candidates. The instructor for both courses was Larry Robinson. Many thanks to Larry for organizing and running the courses. There were 7 registrants in total. From these courses, 1 candidate completed and became a qualified Level 4 official.

A total of 6 individuals were promoted to Level 4 over the past year.

I have been fortunate to have the support of OWA senior level officials to continue the training of new candidates when I am unable to be onsite of a competition. Thank you to all TOs who have been instrumental in sharing their knowledge and experience with the newer officials.

Level 3 – National (WCH)

There were 3 successful candidates that were evaluated at the Ontario Sr. Championships in late 2024 and were promoted to Level 3.

Level 2 – International (IWF)

In June at the Canadian Junior. Championships in Scarborough, Ontario there was one candidate who wrote their exam and was evaluated for their practical exam. They were successfully promoted from National level to IWF Level 2.

Level 1 – International (IWF)

During the Sr. National Championships in Halifax, Nova Scotia, there was 1 OWA candidate who wrote and successfully completed their written and practical exams to become an IWF Level 1 official.

Overview

From July 2023 to July 2024, there have been a total of 11 promotions among the OWA officials. Well done to all those who have worked hard to level up in the past year.

Recruiting New Officials

More effort has gone into promoting and announcing the TO online courses and recruitment at competitions. Posts on the OWA social media accounts and on the OWA newsletters have helped advertise Technical Officials recruitment.

As always, clubs who wish to host OWA competitions are highly encouraged to have a few qualified technical officials among their members to help at weightlifting meets.

Technical Officials Travel Budget

With the assistance of the Competition Administrator, Dimitrije Mancic, the OWA has been able to better manage the TO Travel Subsidy. Apart from one competition, the OWA has been within budget for mileage payments for TOs during the past season.

My duty continues to keep the OWA Board informed of any new amendments to the IWF TCRR.

Online verification meetings were introduced in early 2024. They are arranged for the night before a competition and are available for all members to attend. This was created to streamline the process of any athlete changing categories and to provide an opportunity to offer information for any queries before the day of a meet. It mimics the verification meetings conducted at Sr. or Jr. National Championships.

MAJOR PROJECTS

ONTARIO WINTER GAMES 2024

At the last minute, the OWA Board had decided to cancel sending athletes, coaches, team leaders and officials to the Ontario Winter Games due to the high costs of flights and participant drop out penalty fee after registration.

CANADIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024

In June, the OWA and Abdallah Alsebaai and Variety Village hosted the Canadian Junior Championships in Scarborough. It was an amazing weekend event that was well run and well attended.

The Technical Officials team was comprised of 11 OWA officials, 5 Fédération d'haltérophilie du Québec officials, 2 from Alberta Weightlifting Association, 2 from Saskatchewan Weightlifting Association, and 1 from Nova Scotia Weightlifting Association. One OWA official was unable to attend due to illness. Everyone on the team was hardworking and dedicated and all were prepared for any challenges they had to face.

Mike Miller and Dimitri Mancic were also part of the TO team as the competition secretaries.

I was honoured to represent Weightlifting Canada Haltérophilie as the Technical Delegate and as the WCH rep at the Canadian Junior Championships.

The team worked hard to ensure the competition was efficiently run and finished on time despite any technical challenges or malfunctions.

Thank you to all the volunteers and technical officials who helped make the competition a huge success. A very special thank you Abdallah Alsebaai and his Variety Village team and Mike Miller, Dimitrije Mancic and Eva Martens for their commitment and dedication to this huge endeavour. Countless hours were volunteered to make Canadian Juniors in Toronto the best to date.

Thank you to Weightlifting Canada Haltérophilie for entrusting me with the role of technical delegate of a national weightlifting competition.

LOOKING TOWARDS 2024/2025

Future Directions and Goals

1. Continue and support training and promotion of officials of all levels.
2. Encourage clubs to recruit their own members to become officials.
3. Monitor travel budget.
4. Update the OWA executive Board and OWA officials with new rules and regulations as they are amended by WCH and the IWF.
5. Planning, scheduling, and test preparation for Level 3 officials at the Ontario Sr. Championships.
6. Continue to support the OWA Board and to be a positive role model and representative within the OWA, WCH and the IWF.

2023-2024 was a successful season. The OWA team of technical officials is invaluable to running meets from the local level right up to Nationals. Thank you to all the Ontario technical officials who have volunteered their time and efforts over the past year. I look forward to working with and representing the OWA again over the next 12 months.

